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DSSD CENSUS 2000 PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM SERIES R-10

MEMORANDUM FOR

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Subject:

Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation (ACE) Survey: Second
Amendment to Census 2000 Specifications for Block Cluster
Formation-Reissue

This memorandum is being reissued for inclusion in the official *DSSD Census 2000 Procedures and Operations Memorandum Series*. All text in the version of this memorandum distributed on March 11, 1999 remains the same in this version.

The Decennial Statistical Studies Division and the Geography Division have reviewed the Block Cluster test data and have encountered four situations which require specification and program changes.

- The "zero block procedure" was not being applied for clusters which do not meet the target size. The specification needs to be clarified and the program revised accordingly.
- The two Alaska counties selected for detailed review are entirely Remote Alaska. Selecting two Remote Alaska counties was not our intention. This occurred because one of the selected counties has recently been converted to entirely Remote Alaska. Hence, we will select a non-Remote Alaska county and exchange it for one of the Remote Alaska counties originally designated for review.
- To verify the "enclosed block procedure," we need a flag on the output file to indicate when an enclosed block has been collapsed. This additional flag needs to be specified and programmed.

- To properly identify four variables on the output file, we need to enlarge the field length allocated to these variables. Therefore, the Verification and the Decennial Systems and Contracts Management Office (DSCMO) Block Cluster File Layout needs to be revised in both the specification and the program for the Block Area, Block Perimeter, Block Cluster Area, and Block Cluster Perimeter variables.

These changes will require production to be restarted.

The following section gives the specific text changes to the block clustering specification. We will reissue the specification following production.

Specification Changes:

Make four changes/additions to the *Census 2000 Specifications for Block Cluster Formation* as follows:

1. In Section IV, part C, paragraph 3c, note the addition in italics.

Let block A's closest neighbor be block B. A new block cluster, call it AB, is formed by the combination of block A and its neighboring block, block B. If the total number of housing units is greater than 85 percent of the cluster target then proceed to Step 4: Enclosed Blocks. If the total number of housing units is less than 85 percent of the cluster target then find the closest neighbor, block C, and form ABC. Continue to find the closest neighbor and collapse it into the block cluster until the total number of housing units is greater than 85 percent of the cluster target. *If no closest neighbor block C exists, then proceed to Step 4: Enclosed Blocks and then to Step 5: Zero Neighbor Perimeter Search.*

2. In Appendix G, Production Counties for Review, for the state of Alaska, replace Wade Hampton Census Area, (FIPS county code 270) with Anchorage Borough (FIPS county code 020).

3. In Section V, add a new part, part F which should read as follows.

F. Collapsed Enclosed Block Indicator

Enclosed blocks that are forced to collapse need to be identified. Enclosed blocks are those blocks having only one neighbor. Collapsing Enclosed Blocks is step 4 in the Algorithm of Block Cluster Formation. Put an indicator on the output file to denote if the enclosed block procedure was implemented on the block. This provides a check that the algorithm was implemented correctly.

Assign the Enclosed Block Indicator at the block level to the output file as follows:

If the block is an enclosed block and it has been forced to collapse, then
assign the Collapsed Enclosed Block Indicator a value of '1',
Else assign the Collapsed Enclosed Block Indicator a value of '0.'

Attach this new block-level variable to the end of Appendix A as follows:

Collapsed Enclosed Block Indicator	83:83
0 = Otherwise	
1 = An enclosed block has been forced to collapse	

4. In Appendix A, Verification and DSCMO Block Cluster File Layout, change the file layout to the revised format below.

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Location</u>
State	1:2
County	3:5
Interim Tract (a.k.a. pseudo-tract)	6:11
Block Number	12:16
Blank	17:17
Cluster Number	18:22
Blank	23:23
Cluster Size code	24:24
1 = Clusters with 0 HUs	
2 = Clusters with 1 HUs	
3 = Clusters with 2 HUs	
4 = Clusters with between 3 and 5 HUs	
5 = Clusters with between 6 and 9 HUs	
6 = Clusters with between 10 and 19 HUs	
7 = Clusters with between 20 and 29 HUs	
8 = Clusters with between 30 and 79 HUs	
9 = Clusters with 80 or more HUs	
Blank	25:25
Block Area (Sq. Miles)	26:33
Blank	34:34
Block Perimeter (Miles)	35:40
Blank	41:41
Block Cluster Area (Sq. Miles)	42:49
Blank	50:50
Block Cluster Perimeter (Miles)	51:56
Number of HUs in cluster	57:61

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Location</u>
Number of HUs in block	62:66
Block TEA	67:67
1 = Mailout/Mailback	
2 = Update/Leave	
3 = List/Enumerate	
5 = Rural Update/Enumerate	
6 = Military	
7 = Urban Update/Leave	
8 = Update/Leave to Mailout/Mailback conversions	
9 = Mailout/Mailback to Update/Leave conversions	
TEA Group for Block Cluster	68:68
A = Mailout/Mailback or	
Urban Update/Leave or	
Update/Leave to Mailout/Mailback conversions	
B = Update/Leave or	
Rural Update/Enumerate	
C = List/Enumerate	
D = Military	
E = Mailout/Mailback to Update/Leave conversions	
2000 MAF HUs count	69:73
' ' Blank if no HU count available	
1990 ACF HUs count	74:78
' ' Blank if no HUs count available	
Housing Unit Count Indicator	79:79
1 = from 2000 MAF	
2 = from 1990 ACF	
Invisible Boundary Collapse Indicator	80:80
0 = No	
1 = Yes (Collapsing across Invisible Boundary in BC)	
American Indian Country Indicator	81:81
0 = No American Indian Country	
1 = American Indian Reservation/trust land	
2 = Tribal jurisdiction statistical area/	
Alaska Native Village statistical area/	
tribal designated statistical area	

Military Indicator	82:82
0 = No Military Area	
1 = Block contains Military Area	
Collapsed Enclosed Block Indicator	83:83
0 = Otherwise	
1 = An enclosed block has been forced to collapse	

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